Requirement 5

STATE ASSURANCES

California Government Code

Provide a narrative description of the Assurances listed below:

1. Section 12730(f):

Eligible beneficiaries are the following: (1) all individuals living in households whose income is at or below official poverty income guidelines as defined by the United States Office of Management and Budget; (2) All individuals eligible to receive Temporary Assistance to Needy Families or Federal Supplemental Security Income benefits, and (3) Residents of a target area or members of a target group having a measurably high incidence of poverty and which is the specific focus of a project financed under this chapter.

CAP San Diego's FSS providers determine a client's eligibility for CSBG services in accordance with Government Code Section 12730 prior to service delivery. Other services that are delivered under the CAP San Diego umbrella are provided in accordance with funding eligibility requirements.

2. Section 12747 (a)

Contingency planning for reduced federal funding: Provide your agency's contingency plan for reduced federal funding. Also, include a description of how your agency will be impacted in the event of reduced CSBG funding.

The Community Action Partnership is fully committed to sustaining Self-Sufficiency services for our vulnerable and low-income families to obtain self-sufficiency. Driven by a "whatever it takes" spirit we are focused on the following four strategies in the event of reduced Community Services Block Grant federal funding: (1) resource development by CAP staff; (2) creating and expanding program services networks, collaboratives and public/private partnerships locally and statewide to strengthen and leverage services; (3) expanding activities with community and grassroots organizations to build a comprehensive collaborative service delivery system to sustain Family Self-sufficiency services; (4) seeking out and forming collaboratives with key partners to pursue funding opportunities.

These strategies have been operationalized in the following events:

- Requesting and receiving blanket authority to apply for public and private funding opportunities that promote CAP's mission;
- Applying for grants and responding to requests for proposals to enhance current programs or implement new services that are in keeping with our Community Action Plan:

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- Expansion of the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) program by the addition of an intergenerational partnership with American Association of Retired Persons (AARP). CAP memorialized this partnership through a signed Memorandum of Understanding. This partnership adds training resources, additional tax preparation sites, mentorship and quality assurance. The immediate impact of this partnership increased the EITC program's Volunteers in Tax Preparation (VITA) sites from 19 to 90 and more free tax preparation sites became available to not only seniors but low-income working families in the neighborhoods where they live;
- Creation and implementation of a year-round program to provide homeless families
 with emergency hotel/motel vouchers and intensive case management. By
 leveraging existing resources CAP was able to marshal services into a year round
 collaborative network of services for homeless families. This collaborative service
 delivery network ensures families receive a continuum of services beginning with
 emergency shelter and ending in self-sufficiency;
- Partnering with Children's Hospital and Scripps Hospital to expand CAP's Child Injury Prevention Program from a Child Safety Seat distribution activity to include home safety assessment, distribution of home safety devices and information. In addition, CAP implemented an Obesity Prevention for Children Program.
- Linking Family Self-Sufficiency providers with the County's six Health and Human Services (HHSA) regions and HHSA Family Resource Centers to provide improved outreach services to clients in need of low-cost or no-cost health insurance, food stamp outreach and application referrals, childhood immunization and obesity prevention for children services.

CAP will continue efforts to achieve sustainability at the needed level for the clients we serve. In addition, CAP will continue to work towards new and innovative approaches to ensure sustainability of necessary services as we move forward.

If reduced funding could not be replaced, as an interim measure, while other strategies are going forward, the County of San Diego would request that the State follow the direction of Section 12785, Article 6, of the Government Code and use discretionary funds to alleviate the impact of reduction.

3. Section 12760:

Community Action Agencies under this article shall coordinate their plans and activities with other eligible entities funded under Articles 7 (commencing with Section 12765) and 8 (commencing with Section 12770) which serve any part of their communities, so that funds are not used to duplicate particular services to the same beneficiaries and plans and policies affecting all grantees under this chapter are shaped, to the extent possible, so as to be equitable and beneficial to all grantees and the populations they serve.

CAP San Diego works with their collaborative networks to ensure duplication of services are reduced to a minimum for low-income families being served. The family self-sufficiency contracts have language included that requires ensuring that duplication of services/benefits will not occur when serving the low-income communities.